Partners on a Journey of Hope

Tennessee's Early Intervention Service Coordination Training

Snapshots from the Journey

Portfolio Guide for the
Service Coordinator

Module 3

Description of Module 3

**First Steps on the Journey
Child Development**

Understanding the importance of early brain development and typical child development is foundational to being an informed service coordinator. This module includes research-based information on early brain development and the principles of child development that influence decision-making in regard to appropriate supports and services for families of infants and toddlers with disabilities. Milestones and warning signs or red flags that may indicate developmental concerns are presented as well. The participant will review information on basic child safety and ways to identify quality child care in Tennessee

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Competencies

- Has knowledge and understanding of early brain development.
- Has knowledge and understanding of research-based information on healthy child development, the growing brain, and how families can support their child's development.
- Demonstrates knowledge of, understanding of, and the ability to describe areas of child development in terms related to developmental domains.
- Has knowledge and understanding of principles of child development that guide decisions about developmentally appropriate practice.
- Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of interactions among the familial, cultural, social, and physical environments that may influence the development of the infant and young child.
- Has knowledge and understanding of how the larger cultural system influences parenting practices.
- Has knowledge and understanding of parent-child interactions and the influences of family and environmental factors such as the social support network, the home environment, and economic and geographic factors.
- Has the ability to describe and differentiate between typical and atypical development and the interrelationship among all developmental areas including sensory, motor, language, social, and adaptive.
- Has the ability to access information regarding etiology, diagnosis, and developmental characteristics and intervention needs of infants and toddlers who have developmental delays.
- Has foundational knowledge regarding child safety.
- Demonstrates knowledge, understanding, and the ability to put into practice steps in choosing quality child care in Tennessee.

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Assignment/Activity	Measure of Achievement
3.1 Brain Quiz Read the introductory paragraph and complete 3.1 *Brain Quiz* by circling T/F responses.	Participation in training, quiz completed and filed in portfolio.

3.2 Brain Development
 	
  1. Visit the *BrainWonders* website at the following location and review the information found on the topic of *Brain Development: Frequently Asked Questions.* Information is available there on general brain development and pre- and post-natal brain development. This activity is to be done independently.
 	
      http://www.zerotothree.org/brainwonders/FAQ.html
	Completion of assignment.

2. Access (receive a copy from the trainer or obtain from website) handouts titled *Healthy Minds: Nurturing Your Child's Development* on the website below. Read the seven age-specific handouts (two pages each) for birth to three year olds. These handouts are based on findings from the landmark report from the National Academy of Sciences, *Neurons to Neighborhoods.* They summarize key findings, provide a child description, describe typical development for the age represented, and make suggestions for caregivers for nurturing their child's development. Reviewing this material will give the service coordinator the opportunity to learn about the nature of early child development and the	Completion of assignment.

Assignment/Activity	Measure of Achievement
impact early experiences have on children's health and well-being. www.zerotothree.org/healthyminds/main.html 3. Review information on child development and milestones that is available from the website below in areas titled *Parents* and *Child Care Providers*. Review information, as needed, based on your knowledge and experience related to typical child development and per agreement with the trainer. http://www.zerotothree.org/brainwonders/index.html	Completion of assignment.
4. When this assignment is complete, ask the trainer to list the date completed in your *Documentation of Portfolio Results*.	Trainer documentation of completion of assignments.
3.3 Principles of Child Development View PowerPoint *Principles of Child Development* and participate in discussion with trainer as directed.	Participation in training.
3.4 Understanding and Describing Developmental Domains Review and discuss information in 3.4 *Understanding Developmental Domains* with the trainer. Write a clear and concise (one or two sentences with examples) description of each of the developmental domains on the worksheet 3.4a *Describing Developmental Domains to Families*. Using your written description, practice/role-play delivering this information, as you would do with a family. Place this worksheet in the portfolio.	Satisfactory written description and delivery of information through role-play with the trainer. Description included in portfolio.
3.5 Milestones and Warning Signs View PowerPoint *Milestones and Warning Signs* and engage in discussion as directed by the trainer.	Participation in discussion with trainer.
3.6 Child Safety Review information and participate in discussion with trainer as directed using article 3.6a *Let's Talk About…Child Safety*.	Participation in training.

Assignment/Activity	Measure of Achievement

3.7 Accessing Quality Child Care in Tennessee
 	
• Watch the video *I Am Your Child – Quality Child Care* (or similar one) and participate in discussion as directed by trainer.
• You will need access to the Internet to complete this activity. (If this is not possible in a particular training or group setting, you will need to complete this portion of the training independently wherever Internet access is feasible.) Visit the following website:
 	
http://www.state.tn.us/humanserv/childcare.htm#star
 	
Review *Help with Choosing Child Care* portion of the site, emphasizing two items:
 	
   o The Child Care Resource and Referral service
   o The statewide listing of child care providers.
• Review information in *A Parent's Guide to Choosing Quality Child Care in Tennessee: Handy Workbook* that can be accessed at this website:
 	
http://www.state.tn.us/humanserv/cc-workbook.pdf
 	
• Schedule a field observation to a child care facility that is inclusive. Request contact information from the trainer for a facility in your area. Secure a copy of pages 6-8 of *A Parent's Guide to Choosing Quality Child Care in Tennessee: Handy Workbook* (from website above or from the trainer) to use as a field observation form. Complete the observation form and add additional information by recording any noted differences (positive or negative) in the child care experience for children who are typically developing and children with special needs.
• When the field observation has been completed, meet with the trainer to discuss your observations.
 	
File the observation results in the portfolio.
	Participation in training, completion of assignments, including a field observation and follow up discussion with trainer. Inclusion of observation form in portfolio.